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IRON. *adj.*

1. Made of iron.

In iron walls they deem'd me not secure. *Shakefp. H. VI.*
Get me an iron crow, and bring it straight
Unto my cell. *Shakefp. Romeo and Juliet.*
Some are of an iron red, shining, and polite; others not
polite, but as if powdered with iron dust. *Woodward.*
Poll-cats and weefels do a great deal of injury to warrens:
the way of taking them is in luteches, and iron traps. *Martin.*

2. Resembling iron in colour.

A piece of stone of a dark iron grey colour, but in some
parts of a ferruginous colour. *Woodward on Fossils.*
Some of them are of an iron red, and very bright. *Woodes.*
3. Harsh; severe; rigid; miserable; calamitous: as, the iron
age, for an age of hardship and wickedness. These ideas may
be found more or less in all the following examples.

Three vigorous virgins, waiting still behind,
Assist the throne of th' iron scepter'd king. *Croshaw.*
O sad virgin, that thy power
Might bid the foul of Orpheus sing
Such notes as warbled to the string,
Drew iron tears from Pluto's cheek,
And made hell grant what love did seek. *Milton.*
In all my iron years of wars and dangers,
From blooming youth down to decaying age,
My fame ne'er knew a stain of dishonour. *Rowe.*
Jove crush the nations with an iron rod,
And ev'ry monarch be the scourge of God. *Pope's Odyssey.*

4. Indissoluble; unbroken.

Rash Elpenor, in an evil hour,
Dry'd an immeasurable bowl, and thought
T' exhale his fureit by irriguous sleep,
Imprudent: him death's iron sleep oppress'd. *Phillips.*

5. Hard; impenetrable.

I will converse with iron witted fools,
And unresponsive boys: none are for me,
That look into me with confid'rate eyes. *Shakefp. R. III.*

TO IRON. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To smooch with an iron.

2. To shackle with irons.

IRONICAL. *adj.* [ironique, Fr. from irony.] Expressing one thing
and meaning another; speaking by contraries.

In this fallacy may be comprised all ironical mistakes, or
expressions receiving inverted significations. *Brown.*
I take all your ironical civilities in a literal sense, and shall
expect them to be literally performed. *Swift.*

IRONICALLY. *adv.* [from ironical.] By the use of irony.
Socrates was pronounced by the oracle of Delphos to be the
wisest man of Greece, which he would turn from himself
ironically, saying, there could be nothing in him to verify the
oracle, except this, that he was not wise, and knew it; and
others were not wise, and knew it not. *Bacon.*

The dean, ironically grave, *Swift.*

Still thunn'd the fool, and lash'd the knave. *Swift.*

IRONMONGER. *n. s.* [iron and monger.] A dealer in iron.

IRONWOOD. *n. s.* A kind of wood extremely hard, and so pon-
derous as to sink in water. It grows in America. *Rob. Cruso.*

IRONWORT. *n. s.* [sideritis, Latin.] It is a plant with a labiated
flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip or beard is
divided into three parts: out of the flower-cup rises the pointal,
attended, as it were, by four embryos; which afterward turn
to so many oblong seeds, shut up in an husk, which before was
the flower-cup: to these marks must be added, the flowers
growing in whorls at the wings of the leaves, which are cut
like a crest, and differ from the other leaves of the plant. *Mill.*

IRONY. *adj.* [from iron.] Made of iron; partaking of iron.

The force they are under is real, and that of their fate but
imaginary: it is not strange if the irony chains have more
solidity than the contemplative. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

Some springs of Hungary, highly impregnated with vitriol-
lick salts, dissolve the body of one metal, suppose iron, put
into the spring; and deposit, in lieu of the iron particles car-
ried off, coppery particles. *Woodward on Fossils.*

IRONY. *n. s.* [ironie, Fr. legerie.] A mode of speech in
which the meaning is contrary to the words: as, *Bolingbroke*
real a holy man.

So grave a body, upon so solemn an occasion, should not
deal in irony, or explain their meaning by contraries. *Swift.*

IRRA'DIANCE. *n. s.* [irradiance, French; irradiatio, Latin.]

IRRA'DIANCY. *n. s.* [irradiance, French; irradiatio, Latin.]

1. Emission of rays or beams of light upon any object.

The principal affection is its translucency; the irradiancy
and sparklings, found in many gems, is not discoverable in
this. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

2. Beams of light emitted.

Love met the heav'nly spirits? Or do they mix
Irradiance! virtual, or immediate touch? *Mist. Par. Lg.*

TO IRRA'DIATE. *v. a.* [irradiare, Latin.]

1. To adorn with light emitted upon it; to brighten.

When he thus perceives that these opacous bodies do not
hinder the eye from judging light to have an equal plenary
diffusion through the whole place it irradiates, he can have no

difficulty to allow air, that is diaphanous, to be every where
mingled with light. *Digby on Bodies.*

It is not a converting but a crowning grace; such an one
as irradiates and puts a circle of glory about the head of him
upon whom it descends. *South.*

2. To enlighten intellectually; to illumine; to illuminate.

Celestial light
Shine inward, and the mind through all her pow'rs
Irradiate; there plant eyes: all mist from thence
Purge and disperse. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*

3. To animate by heat or light.

Ethereal or solar heat must digest, influence, irradiate, and
put those more simple parts of matter into motion. *Hale.*

4. To decorate with shining ornaments.

No weeping orphan saw his father's floor
Our shrines irradiate, or imblaze the floor. *Pope.*

IRRADIA'TION. *n. s.* [irradiation, Fr. from irradiare.]

1. The act of emitting beams of light.

If light were a body it should drive away the air, which is
likewise a body, wherever it is admitted; for within the whole
sphere of the irradiation of it, there is no point but light is
found. *Digby on Bodies.*

The generation of bodies is not effected by irradiation, or
answerably unto the propagation of light; but herein a trans-
mission is made materially from some parts, and ideally from
every one. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

2. Illumination; intellectual light.

The means of derivation and immediate union of these in-
telligible objects to the understanding, are sometimes divine
and supernatural, as by immediate irradiation or revelation.
Hale's Origin of Manind.

IRRAT'IONAL. *adj.* [irrationalis, Latin.]

1. Void of reason; void of understanding; without the dis-
course faculty.

Thus began
Outrage from lifeless things; but discord first,
Daughter of sin, among th' irrational
Death introduc'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

He hath eat'n, and lives,
And knows, and speaks, and reasons and discerns;
Irrational till then. *Mist. Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

2. Absurd; contrary to reason.

Since the brain is only a part transmittent, and that humours
oft are precipitated to the lungs before they arrive to the brain,
no kind of benefit can be effected from so irrational an ap-
plication. *Harvey on Conjunction.*

I shall quietly submit, not wishing so irrational a thing as
that every body should be deceived. *Pope.*

IRRATIONALITY. *n. s.* [from irrational.] Want of reason.

IRRAT'IONALLY. *adv.* [from irrational.] Without reason;
absurdly.

IRRECLAIMABLE. *adj.* [in and reclaimable.] Not to be re-
claimed; not to be changed to the better.

As for obstinate, irreclaimable, professed enemies, we must
expect their calumnies will continue. *Adison's Freeholder.*

IRRECONCILABLE. *adj.* [irreconcilable, Fr. in and reconcilable.]

1. Not to be reconciled; not to be appeased.

Wage eternal war,
Irreconcilable to our grand foe. *Milton.*

A weak unequal faction may animate a government, but
when it grows equal in strength, and irreconcilable by animos-
ity, it cannot end without some crisis. *Trotter.*

There are no factions, though irreconcilable to one another,
that are not united in their affection to you. *Dryden.*

2. Not to be made consistent. It has with or to.

As she was strictly virtuous herself, so she always put the
best construction upon the words and actions of her neigh-
bours, except where they were irreconcilable to the rules of
honesty and decency. *Arbutnot, Hist. of John Bull.*

Since the sense I oppose is attended with such gross irrecon-
cilable absurdities, I presume I need not offer any thing farther
in support of the one, or in disproof of the other. *Rever.*

This essential power of gravitation or attraction is irrecon-
cilable with the atheist's own doctrine of a chaos. *Bentham.*

All that can be transmitted from the stars is wholly unac-
countable, and irreconcilable to any system of science. *Bentham.*

IRRECONCILABLENESS. *n. s.* [from irreconcilable.] Impossi-
bility to be reconciled.

IRRECONCILABLY. *adv.* [from irreconcilable.] In a manner
not admitting reconciliation.

IRRECONCILED. *adj.* [in and reconciled.] Not atoned.

A servant dies in many irreconciled iniquities. *Shakefp. H. V.*

IRRECOVERABLE. *adj.* [in and recoverable.]

1. Not to be regained; not to be restored or repaired.

Time, in a natural sense, is irrecoverable: the moment just
 fled by us, it is impossible to recall.

2. Not to be remedied.

The irrecoverable loss of so many livings of principal
value.

It concerns every man, that would not trifle away his soul,
and fool himself into irrecoverable misery, with the greatest
seriousness to enquire. *Tillotson's Sermons.*

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IRRECOVERABLY. *adv.* [from irrecoverable.] Beyond reco-
very; past repair.

O dark, dark, dark amid' the blaze of noon;
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse,
Without all hope of day. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The credit of the Exchequer is irrecoverably lost by the last
breach with the bankers. *Temple.*

IRREDUCIBLE. *adj.* [in and reducible.] Not to be brought or
reduced.

These observations seem to argue the corpuscles of air to
be irreducible into water. *Boyle.*

IRREFRAGABILITY. *n. s.* [from irrefragable.] Strength of
argument not to be refuted.

IRREFRAGABLE. *adj.* [irrefragabilis, school Latin; irre-
fragable, Fr.] Not to be confuted; superior to argumental
opposition.

Strong and irrefragable the evidences of Christianity must
be: they who resisted them would resist every thing. *Atterbury.*

The danger of introducing unexperienced men was urged
as an irrefragable reason for working by flow degrees. *Swift.*

IRREFRAGABLY. *adv.* [from irrefragable.] With force above
confutation.

That they denied a future state is evident from St. Paul's
reasonings, which are of no force but only on that supposition,
as Origen largely and irrefragably proves. *Atterbury.*

IRREFUTABLE. *adj.* [irrefutabilis, Latin.] Not to be over-
thrown by argument.

IRREGULAR. *adj.* [irregularis, Fr. irregularis, Latin.]

1. Deviating from rule, custom, or nature.

The am'rous youth
Obtain'd of Venus his desire, *Prior.*

How'er irregular his fire.

2. Immethodical; not confined to any certain rule or order.

This motion seems excentric and irregular, yet not well
to be resisted or quieted. *King Charles.*

Regular
Then most, when most irregular they seem. *Milton.*

The numbers of pindarics are wild and irregular, and
sometimes seem harsh and uncouth. *Cowley.*

3. Not being according to the laws of virtue. A soft word for
virtuous.

IRREGULARITY. *n. s.* [irregularitas, Fr. from irregular.]

1. Deviation from rule.

2. Neglect of method and order.

This irregularity of its unruly and tumultuous motion might
afford a beginning unto the common opinion. *Brown.*

As these vast heaps of mountains are thrown together with
so much irregularity and confusion, they form a great variety
of hollow bottoms. *Adison on Italy.*

3. Inordinate practice.

Religion is somewhat less in danger of corruption, while
the sinner acknowledges the obligations of his duty, and is
ashamed of his irregularities. *Rogers's Sermons.*

IRREGULARLY. *adv.* [from irregular.] Without observation
of rule or method.

Phaeton,
By the wild courses of his fancy drawn,
From East to West irregularly hurld,
First set on fire himself, and then the world. *Dryden jun.*

Your's is a foul irregularly great,
Which wanting temper, yet abounds with heat. *Dryden.*

It may give some light to those whose concern for their lit-
tle ones makes them so irregularly bold as to consult their own
reason, in the education of their children, rather than to rely
upon old custom. *Locke.*

TO IRREGULATE. *v. a.* [from in and regula, Latin.] To
make irregular; to disorder.

Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds,
shelves, and every interjacency irregularates. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*

IRRELATIVE. *adj.* [in and relativity, Latin.] Having no re-
ference to any thing; single; unconnected.

Separated by the voice of God, things in their species came
out in uncommunicated varieties, and irrelative femininities.
Brown's Vulgar Errors.

IRRELIGION. *n. s.* [irreligion, Fr. in and religion.] Contempt
of religion; impiety.

The weapons with which I combat irreligion are already
consecrated. *Dryden.*

We behold every instance of prophaneness and irreligion,
not only committed, but defended and gloried in. *Rogers.*

IRRELIGIOUS. *adj.* [irreligiens, Fr. in and religious.]

1. Contemning religion; impious.

The ill of an irreligious Moor. *Shakefp. Tit. Andron.*

Whoever sees these irreligious men,
With burthen of a sickness weak and faint,
But hears them talking of religion then,
And vowing of their souls to ev'ry saint,
Shame and reproach is generally the portion of the impious
and irreligious. *South's Sermons.*

2. Contrary to religion.

Wherein that Scripture standeth not the church of God in
any stead, or ferveth nothing at all to direct, but may be let

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pals as needfuls to be consulted with, we judge it profane, im-
pious, and irreligious to think. *H. cher.*

Might not the qucen's domesticks be obliged to avoid swear-
ings, and irreligious profane discourse? *Swift.*

IRRELIGIOUSLY. *adv.* [from irreligious.] With impiety;
with irreligion.

IRREMEABLE. *adj.* [irremeabilis, Latin.] Admitting no re-
turn.

The keeper charm'd, the chief without delay
Pals'd on, and took th' irremovable way. *Dryden.*

IRREME'DIABLE. *adj.* [irremediable, Fr. in and remediable.]

Admitting no cure; not to be remedied.

They content themselves with that which was the irremediable
error of former times, or the necessity of the present hath cast
upon them. *Hooker.*

A steady hand, in governing of military affairs, is more
requisite than in times of peace, because an error committed
in war may prove irremediable. *Bacon.*

Whatever he consults you about, unless it lead to some fatal
and irremediable mischief, be sure you advise only as a
friend. *Locke.*

IRREME'DIABLY. *adv.* [from irremediable.] Without cure.

It happens to us irremediably and inevitably, that we may
perceive these accidents are not the fruits of our labour, but
gifts of God. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*

IRREMISSIBLE. *adj.* [in and remitto, Lat. irremissibile, French.]

Not to be pardoned.

IRREMISSIBLENESS. *n. s.* [from irremissibile.] The quality of
being not to be pardoned.

Thence arises the aggravation and irremissibility of the
sin. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

IRREMOVABLE. *adj.* [in and remove.] Not to be moved;
not to be changed.

He's irremovable, *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*

Resolv'd for flight.

IRRENO'WED. *adj.* [in and renown.] Void of honour.

For all he did was to deceive good knights,
And draw them from pursuit of praise and fame
To sluggish sloth and sensual delights,
And end their days with irrenowned shame. *Fairy Queen.*

IRREPARABLE. *adj.* [irreparabilis, Lat. irreparable, Fr.] Not
to be recovered; not to be repaired.

Irreparable is the loss, and patience says it is not past her
cure. *Shakefp. Tempest.*

Toil'd with loss irreparable.

It is an irreparable injustice we are guilty of, when we are
prejudiced by the looks of those whom we do not know. *Adif.*

The story of Deucalion and Pyrrha teaches, that piety and
innocence cannot miss of the divine protection, and that the
only loss irreparable is that of our probity. *Garth.*

IRREPARABLY. *adv.* [from irreparable.] Without recovery;
without amends.

Such adventures befall artists irreparably. *Boyle.*

The cutting off that time industry and gifts, whereby she would
be nourished, were irreparably injurious to her. *Dec. of Piety.*

IRREPLEVABLE. *adj.* [in and replevy.] Not to be redeemed.
A law term.

IRREPREHENSIBLE. *adj.* [irreprehensibilis, Fr. irreprehensibilis,
Latin.] Exempt from blame.

IRREPREHENSIBLY. *adv.* [from irreprehensibilis.] Without blame.

IRREPRESENTABLE. *adj.* [in and represent.] Not to be figured
by any representation.

God's irrepresentable nature doth hold against making images
of God. *Stillington.*

IRREPROACHABLE. *adj.* [in and reproachable.] Free from
blame; free from reproach.

He was a serious sincere Christian, of an innocent, irre-
proachable, nay, exemplary life. *Atterbury.*

Their prayer may be, that they may raise up and breed as
irreproachable a young family as their parents have done. *Pope.*

IRREPROACHABLY. *adv.* [from irreproachable.] Without
blame; without reproach.

IRREPROVEABLE. *adj.* [in and reproveable.] Not to be blamed;
irreproachable.

IRRESISTIBILITY. *n. s.* [from irresistibile.] Power or force
above opposition.

The doctrine of irresistibility of grace, in working whatso-
ever it works, if it be acknowledged, there is nothing to be
affix to gratitude. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

IRRESISTIBLE. *adj.* [irresistibilis, Fr. in and resistibile.] Supe-
rior to opposition.

Fear doth grow from an apprehension of the Deity, inducd
with irresistibile power to hurt; and is of all affections, anger
excepted, the unaptest to admit conference with reason. *Hook.*

In mighty quadrate join'd
Of union irresistibile. *Milton.*

Fear of God is inward acknowledgment of an holy just
Being, armed with almighty and irresistibile power. *Tillotson.*

There can be no difference in the subjects, where the appli-
cation is almighty and irresistibile, as in creation. *Rogers.*

Won by the charm
Of goodness irresistibile. the blith'd content. *Thomson.*

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IRRESISTIBLY.